

REMARKS

Claims 1-29 are pending in this application. Claims 1-2, 4, 7, 9-15, 18-19, 21-26 are amended to clarify that which was previously described, and Claim 29 has been added. Support for these amendments is included throughout the specification including paragraphs [0089], [0206], [0209], [0215], [0232]-[0236], [0268], [0283]-[0290], [0359]-[0363] and Figs. 9, 11, 30, 46 and 47. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration of the pending Claims is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication that dependent Claims 9, 12, 13, and 21-23 would be allowable if placed in independent form. In that regard, Claim 9 has been amended to include the subject matter of originally filed Claim 1. Thus, Claim 9 is now allowable, and an indication of allowance is respectfully requested.

Unexamined Claims

Although Claims 10-11 are indicated as rejected on page 2 of the office action, the office action has failed to address the features described in Claims 10 and 11. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests examination on the merits of Claims 10-11, and the opportunity to fully respond to said examination.

Although Claims 24-26 are indicated as rejected on pages 2 and 5 of the office action, the office action has failed to address the features described in Claims 24 25 or 26. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests examination on the merits of Claims 24-26, and the opportunity to fully respond to said examination.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC § 103

Claims 1-8, 10-11, 14-20, and 24-28¹ were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application No. 6,864,780 to Doi et al. (hereinafter "Doi") in combination with Japanese Published Application No. JP2001-352299 A (hereinafter "JP '299"). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections because the cited references either alone or in combination fail to teach, suggest, or disclose each and every limitation of the presently pending Claims. Thus, a *prima facie* case of obviousness is unsupported by the asserted combination of references.

Claims 1-8 and 10-13

Claim 1 describes "at least one of a return electrode electrically connected to said receiver return electrode and positioned nearer said electro-optical crystal than said receiver return electrode, and a destination electrode electrically connected to said receiver main electrode and positioned nearer said electro-optical crystal than

¹ On page 6 of the office action, claim 23 is indicated as rejected, however, claim 23 depends from claim 22 which is indicated as allowed. Accordingly, this rejection of claim 23 will be ignored.

said receiver main electrode" which is similar to the subject matter of originally filed Claims 18 and 19. Although Claims 18 and 19 were indicated as rejected on pages 2 and 5 of the office action, the features of Claims 18 and 19 are not addressed, and are instead simply disregarded completely. Moreover, Applicant respectfully asserts that neither Doi, nor JP '299 teach or suggest these features, and are instead wholly silent in this regard.

Claim 10 describes that said measuring part measures a voltage difference between said receiver main electrode and said receiver return electrode, the voltage difference being generated by an electric field provided to said dielectric. In addition, Claim 11 describes in said communications system, said transmitter main electrode is located near said receiver main electrode, said receiver return electrode is provided in a location where said receiver return electrode does not contact said transmitter main electrode and said receiver main electrode, and said measuring part measures an electric field generated between said receiver main electrode and said receiver return electrode, the electric field being generated by said modulator and not passing through said dielectric. Applicant respectfully asserts that such features are not taught or suggested by Doi or JP '299 either alone or in combination. In fact, the office action mailed June 22, 2010 does not assert that Doi or JP '299 meet the limitations described in Claims 10 and 11, but rather simply disregards these limitations completely. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested

that the rejections of Claims 10 and 11 be withdrawn as improper. (See MPEP 707 and 37 CFR §1.104(b) and 37 CFR §1.104(c))

For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejections of Claim 1 and the claims dependent therefrom.

Claims 14-28

Claim 14 describes at least one of a return electrode electrically connected to said receiver return electrode and positioned nearer said electro-optical crystal than said receiver return electrode, and a destination electrode electrically connected to said receiver main electrode and positioned nearer said electro-optical crystal than said receiver main electrode. Such features are not taught or suggested by Doi or JP '299 either alone or in combination. Instead, both Doi and JP '299 are wholly silent in this regard.

Claim 24 describes a demodulator that acquires an electric signal based on the measurement result by said measuring part, and acquires the transmitted data by demodulating the electric signal, wherein said demodulator, at a start of the demodulating process, detects a polarity of a header of a received packet; and when said demodulator detects that the polarity of the header is inverted from a predetermined polarity, said demodulator inverts the polarity of the packet and demodulates the packet having the inverted polarity. In addition, Claim 25 describes a demodulator that acquires an electric signal based on a measurement

result by said measuring part, and acquires the transmitted data by demodulating the electric signal, wherein said demodulator comprises a temporary memory for storing a received packet; and when said demodulator fails to demodulate the packet, said demodulator inverts the signal stored in said temporary memory and demodulates the packet having inverted polarity. Also, Claim 26 describes a first demodulator that receives a first electric signal based on the measurement result by said measuring part, a second demodulator that receives a second electric signal whose polarity is inverted from the first electric signal based on the measurement result by said measuring part; and a circuit that receives output signals from said first demodulator and said second demodulator, and outputs a correctly demodulated signal.

Applicant respectfully asserts that the features described in Claims 24, 25 and 26 are not taught or suggested by Doi or JP '299 either alone or in combination. In fact, the office action mailed June 22, 2010 does not assert that Doi or JP '299 meet the limitations described in Claims 24, 25 or 26, but rather simply disregards these limitations completely. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejections of Claims 24-26 be withdrawn as improper. (See MPEP 707 and 37 CFR §1.104(b) and 37 CFR §1.104(c))

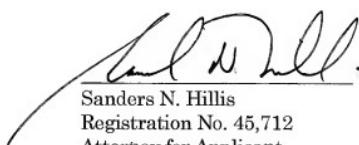
For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejections of Claim 1 and the claims dependent therefrom.

The presently cited references also fail to teach or suggest the features of new Claim 29.

Applicant believes the presently pending claims of this application are allowable and respectfully requests the Examiner to issue a Notice of Allowance for this application. Should the Examiner deem a telephone conference to be beneficial in expediting allowance/examination of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: SEPTEMBER 22, 2010



Sanders N. Hillis
Registration No. 45,712
Attorney for Applicant

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
CUSTOMER NO. 79510
TELEPHONE: 317-636-0886
FACSIMILE: 317-634-6701